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to in the answer to clause (*a*) above and appointments were made by the Special Officers of district boards concerned.

(*h*) The Government have power under section 70-A of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 and section 73-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, to transfer any officer or servant of a local board or a municipality to the service of another local body. However, permanent district board employees, municipal employees and executive officers of panchayats who belong to different services and who were selected for the panel of Deputy Panchayat Officers were not transferred by Government to their new appointments as Deputy Panchayat Officers under district boards, but were appointed by the Special Officers of the district boards concerned from the panel approved by Government.

(*i*) No confidential orders were issued in regard to the termination of services of the ex-Assistant Panchayat Officers. The orders regarding appointments to the new cadre, however, were treated as confidential until Special Officers of district boards made the appointments.

(*j*) Yes.

(*k*) The question of drawing up fresh panels after calling for applications is under the consideration of Government. It will not be in the public interest, to furnish the names of candidates in the existing panels who are awaiting appointment.

**[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]**

### II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House the following message received from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly, dated the 18th January **1949 :—**

' In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Assembly Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras Aliyasanthana Bill, 1948 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1948), as agreed to by the Assembly without any amendment and signed by me.' "

### III.—ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, I am giving a Tea Party this afternoon in honour of my esteemed and distinguished friend, the Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao. I have invited the hon. Members of this House and I would therefore request you to be kind enough to direct the House to rise at 4–30 p.m. to-day. If any hon. Member has not received the invitation, I would request him to take this as an invitation and attend the Party."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" I suppose the House will have no objection to rise at 4-30 p.m."

### IV.—STATEMENT OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR EXCESS EXPENDITURE IN 1945-46.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I present the statement of Demands for Excess Expenditure in 1945-46.

" Hon. Members are aware that during 1945-46, there is excess expenditure under certain demands and that has to be regularized by the Legislature. I suppose the discussion is to take place on the 22nd."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Mr. President, might I ask what is the necessity for a discussion; it is something like a post-mortem examination ; this occurred during the Adviser's Government."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Now the statement has been placed before the House and on the point he has raised, he might address when it is taken up for discussion and comment upon it."

## NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

3-30 p.m.

### V.—THE MADRAS HINDU BIGAMOUS MARRIAGES PROHIBITION AND DIVORCE BILL (L.A. BILL No. 6 OF 1947) AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The House will now resume consideration of the Madras Hindu Bigamous Marriages Prohibition and Divorce Bill. The House will remember that the general discussion on this Bill went on for one full day and at the close of the day some hon. Members expressed their desire to participate in the further discussions of the Bill and that is why the discussion was postponed. If any hon. Member is desirous of offering his remarks, he might do so now."

* SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Mr. President, there is one point on which I seek clarification from the Government. Since the discussion last took place, a note appeared in the newspapers to the effect that the Madras Government have taken a definite stand in the matter of reform of the Hindu law. They have said that the Hindu Code is very near completion and it is expected to become law within a matter of weeks and so the reform of the Hindu law, as for instance, the Thiya personal law, would not be proceeded with. Having stated that, may I know if there is any alteration in their attitude to this Bill? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" When did it appear? "

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Some ten days ago, Sir. In view of the fact that the Hindu Code is very near completion and its passing by the Central Legislature is imminent, they said they would not proceed with any reform of personal law and they mentioned the Thiya personal law in particular. Might I know if there has been any change in their attitude since then? "